

Number 357

Education Support to the DOD—Worldwide

August 2006



Highlights of DOD Worldwide Education Symposium in July

Military educators and academic institution representatives from around the world met in Orlando, Fla. July 17-21 to focus on educating today's Service members. The DOD Worldwide Education Symposium, hosted by the Defense Activity

for Non-Traditional Education Support (DANTES), brought together the major players in voluntary education, including representatives from military education offices, colleges and universities, testing agencies, the technology industry, and the military Services.

Topics covered at the symposium included distance learning, testing, certification and licensure, VA educational benefits, innovative partnerships, the Troops to Teachers program, and education services and support.

Over 1,800 participants attended the triennial symposium, with a theme of "Educating America's Service Members Any Place, Any Time." One hundred and fifty exhibitors demonstrated the necessary alliances that make for an educated military. Through Dallas TeleCollege's coordination, Apple Computer, Inc. recorded podcasts of selected speaker presentations. The podcasts will be available on the symposium Web site (<http://www.ww06.com>) by mid-August.

Costumed characters Benjamin Franklin, Uncle Sam, Abigail Adams, Thomas Edison, and Edgar the Eagle joined the USO Liberty Belles singing troupe in providing a historical and patriotic theme throughout the symposium.

The next DOD Worldwide Education Symposium will be held July 27-31, 2009 in Atlanta, Ga. For information about voluntary education in the military, visit <http://www.dantes.doded.mil>.



(Top: Carolyn Baker, Chief, Continuing Education Programs, opened the symposium. Top left: Uncle Sam. Top right: USO's Liberty Belles; Above left: Navy chorus. Above right: Joint service color guard.

Testing Calendar

August 2006

4	Excelsior Extended Response (Essay)
5-9	Praxis *

September 2006

16-20	Praxis *
30	LSAT

October 2006

6	Excelsior Extended Response (Essay)
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November 2006

6-11	GRE Subject *
9, 14, 16	ASE (CONUS) **
14-16	ASE (Overseas) **
18-22	Praxis *

Notes:

Overseas test centers send orders six weeks before the test date.

CONUS test centers send orders four weeks before the test date.

Contractors ship tests to arrive just before the planned test date.

*Select only one test date from the published period for DANTES testing and specify that date on the order form.

**Deadline for ordering ASE exams is 22 September.

Reminder: The SAT Program shuts down scoring in late summer. Do not schedule SAT testing July - September. See the DEPH Chapter 3.

Online calendar:

http://www.dantes.doded.mil/dantes_web/library/docs/examinations/05-06cal.pdf

Web-based DATIP update

In the May 2006 *DANTES Information Bulletin*, we announced the deployment of the Web-based DANTES Automated Test Inventory Program (DATIP). As part of that deployment, we contacted nearly 185 DANTES Test Centers offering to import their test inventory data from the CD-ROM version of DATIP to the Web-based application. Not surprisingly, a good number of Test Control Officers took us up on our offer. For those who did not and for all new users, the task remains for them to establish an Exams Management Information System (EMIS) account and manually enter their DANTES test inventory data into the Web application before 1 October 2006.

All stocking DANTES Test Centers, except for those designated as monthly reporting centers and Active Duty Air Force centers, are required to submit the 1 July through 30 September 2006 quarterly inventory reports using the Web-based DATIP. This application allows the TCO or ATCO to submit these reports electronically anytime between 27 September and 5 October 2006. On 6 October, we electronically forward these reports to the national test agencies for reconciliation. There is also a late submission period from 6 – 10 October. After 10 October, fourth quarter reports cannot be submitted, and the test center is considered delinquent. On 11 October, these reports are electronically forwarded to the testing agencies for reconciliation.

Once the inventory data is entered into the Web-based application, the reporting is simplified and reconciliation of inventories becomes timelier. Your cooperation is essential for improving the accountability and security of the DANTES Testing Program.

Internet-based DSST testing pilot started in August

In conjunction with the national test center Internet-Based Test (iBT) DSST testing pilot, DANTES, four Service education centers and their on-base CLEP eCBT national test centers, are participating in this pilot program, which began in August 2006. The four installations and their respective on-base colleges or universities are: Andrews AFB – University of Maryland; Ft. Stewart – Columbia College; Jacksonville NAS – Florida Community College at Jacksonville; Quantico MCB – Northern Virginia Community College.

The pilot involves nine (9) iBT DSST test titles and will continue until 30 September 2006. The two-month pilot provides the opportunity to assess the effectiveness of the iBT delivery system and to ensure that the DANTES Score Reporting System can capture and report the iBT DSST test scores to the Services' transcript and counseling systems.

With the award of the new contract with Thomson Learning, Inc. in October 2006, all 36 DSST test titles, except for the "Principles of Public Speaking" test, will be available as iBT DSST tests. Like the CLEP eCBT computer based tests, the iBT DSSTs will only be available through national test centers, both on-campus and on-base. DANTES will authorize up-front funding (*test fee only*) for the iBT DSST at on-campus national test centers; at on-base national test centers operating under an MOU, DANTES will fund the *administration fee and test fee* for eligible military and civilian examinees.

Contact the Exam Programs at exams@voled.doded.mil or by calling DSN 922-1063 or CML (850) 452-1063 for more information.

Reduced number of Praxis test dates

The Praxis Program recently announced that the paper-based Praxis I – Pre-Professional Skills Tests (PPST) for FY07 will only be available on the following scheduled test dates:

National Test Dates

18 Nov 2006
13 Jan 2007
28 Apr 2007
04 Aug 2007

DANTES Test Dates

18-22 Nov 2006
13-17 Jan 2007
28 Apr/2 May 2007
04-08 Aug 2007

Given the past difficulties with delivering PPST and Praxis II examinations to DANTES test centers seven times a year, these four administration dates will be the only dates for FY07 PPST and Praxis II - Specialty testing at both CONUS and overseas DANTES test centers.

Reminders:

Send Praxis orders to Thomson Prometric NLT four weeks (CONUS) and NLT six weeks (Overseas) before the scheduled test date.

In order to ensure timely Praxis shipment deliveries to overseas test centers, Thomson Prometric has agreed to send Praxis test materials via a commercial carrier such as DHL, FedEx, or UPS rather than only by certified mail service via the APO/FPO system. In order to use the commercial carrier delivery option overseas, test centers must provide Thomson Prometric the complete test center street address needed by the local commercial carrier. This address should be placed on the Application For Test Materials along with the tests being ordered. If a street address is not provided or one is not available, the Praxis shipments will be sent to the test center using the standard certified mail service operated by the APO/FPO system.

Because of the complexities associated with administering Praxis examinations, TCOs must order the *Praxis Supervisors Manual* for the current testing year from Thomson Prometric before attempting to administer Praxis examinations.

For questions concerning Praxis testing, contact the DANTES Examination Program at exams@voled.doded.mil or call (850) 451-1063; DSN 922-1063.

ASE fall info

The National Institute of Automotive Service Excellence (ASE) tests will be administered during the fall on the following dates:

Overseas 14, 15, and 16 November 2006
CONUS 9, 14, and 16 November 2006

The deadline for ordering exams must reach ASE/ACT on or before 22 September 06. Find the registration and ordering forms online under "Certification Programs" at the following address

<http://www.dantes.doded.mil>.

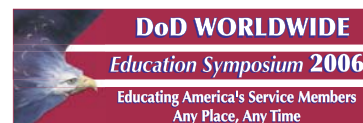
Charleston – 14th FAA center

The base education center at Charleston AFB is the 14th Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) testing center. Like the other authorized FAA base education centers, Charleston will offer the Airman Knowledge tests that consist of the Airman Mechanic General (AMG), Airman Mechanic Airframe (AMA), and the Airman Mechanic Powerplant (AMP). If your base education center is interested in offering the Airframe and Powerplant tests, send an e-mail to certprog@voled.doded.mil.

All FAA tests available

Congratulations to the following base education centers: Fort Eustis Army Education Center, Va.; Sheppard AFB Education Center, Texas; U.S. Coast Guard Aviation Training Center, Mobile, Ala.; and Tinker AFB Education Center, Okla. Effective 13 June, these four authorized FAA base education centers will offer **all** computer-based FAA tests to eligible military personnel.

The FAA tests offered at base education centers are no cost to military personnel authorized to take the tests.



**Stay tuned –
more**

**Worldwide '06
highlights in the
September issue**

Troops to Teachers heading back to school

Heading into his third year of teaching, Odie Leaven has a better idea of what to expect — and so do his students.

Leaven is a science teacher at Greenville, N.C. Wellcome Middle School, where his students have learned to expect the discipline and structure that comes from a 20-year Navy veteran.

Leaven is one of thousands of other Troops to Teachers teaching in school districts around the country that will be back in school this month. Troops to Teachers (TTT) is a cooperative Department of Defense and Department of Education program administered by DANTES, that helps transition military members into public school teachers.

Many Troops to Teachers, like Leaven, will be teaching in high-need school districts where math and science teachers are in great demand.

Leaven hasn't just filled a teaching void, however. His ability to reach his students was recently featured in an article in the *News & Observer*, the daily newspaper for the Raleigh/Durham area. The article notes Leaven's use of military-inspired classroom management techniques that include breaking his class into groups and assigning group leaders. The students soon learn a basic principal that all military learn in boot camp: In order to help themselves, they must help each other.

"For most of them, all they really want is to belong, be part of a structure," Leaven told the *News & Observer*.

Then there is the discipline. In his first week as a teacher, a student of Leaven's started throwing things at his classmates. A series of military-inspired commands brought the outburst to a quick end.

"At my school, we have some real good veteran teachers that have taken me under their wing and helped me a lot," Leaven said. "And there are aspects where they ask me to help them, too, such as dealing with the kids."

Leaven won the Pitt County "Teacher, My Hero" award his first year at Wellcome, and he organized a school science fair his second year. No one knew what to expect in terms of participation for the science fair, but Leaven was pleasantly surprised to have more than 60 projects submitted. His favorite was a

working hovercraft made from a weed-whacker engine.

Leaven is one of more than 450



Odie Leaven

Troops to Teachers that have been hired in North Carolina. He got the attention of the *News & Observer* after a local columnist heard a radio interview by state TTT program coordinator Paul Gregg.

For more information on Troops to Teachers, visit <http://www.ProudtoServeAgain.com> or e-mail ttt@voled.doded.mil.

Air Force Captain

Dayton Rogalski signs a Hire In Advance agreement with Clark County (Nev.) Associate Superintendent of Human Resources George Ann Rice looking on.

The first-of-a-kind hiring program addresses the national need for teachers that is especially acute in the Las Vegas area and guarantees teaching jobs for eligible military up to three years before they retire or separate from active duty. New teachers



are sorely needed in the booming Las Vegas area, the nation's fifth-largest school district.

Counseling tool – Career Assessment Inventory (CAI)

The CAI is an occupational interest inventory for both college-bound and non-college individuals. The Enhanced Version compares an individual's occupational interests to those individuals in 111 specific careers in today's workforce. The inventory helps students develop career and study plans and advises individuals on career development. It is used by professionals in military education centers via DANTES.

The CAI is written at an eighth-grade reading level and can be self,

group, or individually administered. The inventory includes General Themes based on the widely accepted RIASEC mode:

Realistic,
Investigative, Artistic,
Social,
Enterprising,
and Conventional.

Occupational Scales match an individual's likes and dislikes to those of people who have been satisfactorily employed in an occupation for a

number of years.



If the education center personnel wish to administer the inventory over the Internet, which is strongly encouraged, click on the following site: [http://](http://www.pearsonassessments.com/career/dantes-military.asp)

www.pearsonassessments.com/career/dantes-military.asp.

If you wish to order the paper version, the following applies:

DANTES Stock #1113 – CAI Profile Test Booklet

DANTES Stock #1115 – CAI Interpretative Test booklet (goes into more detail than Profile Test Booklet)

DANTES Stock # 1114 – Interpretive Manual.

For questions, contact the DANTES Counselor Support Programs Manager at counseling@voled.doded.mil.

Time to order Federal Student Aid publications

Have you ordered your DANTES materials for the upcoming Federal student financial aid cycle? Probably, you are aware that it is that time again. During October, November and December, many students will pick up their **Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA)** even though completion and filing are after 1 January.

DANTES has three items to support you and your clients:

1.) The paper **Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) July 1, 2006 – June 30, 2007** is DANTES Stock #2405 (annual order limit 1,000).

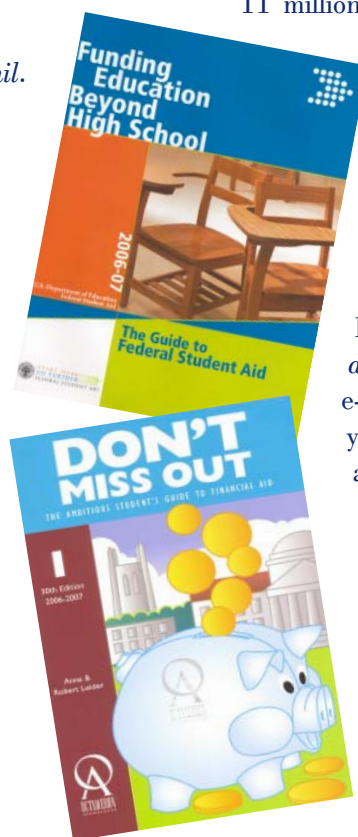
2.) The brochure, **Funding Education Beyond High School 2006-07**, is DANTES Stock #2406 (annual order limit 1,000). If you need more copies of stock numbers 2405 and 2406 than the annual

order limits above, e-mail refpubs@voled.doded.mil.

3.) The book, **Don't Miss Out – The Ambitious Student's Guide To Financial Aid**, Anna and Robert Leider, DANTES Stock #2421. The annual order limit is 50. In this book, Chapter 6, The Mechanics of Application, discusses the application process. The online application has been enhanced (<http://www.fafsa.ed.gov>) and 75 percent of the

11 million applications are filed electronically. Paper FAFSAs take four weeks to process while electronic FAFSAs take only one.

All three of these items may be ordered by e-mailing the DANTES Distribution Center, dist@voled.doded.mil. Your e-mail order should include your DANTES ID number, address, stock number, and quantity.



DANTES External Degree Catalog College profile

The following article begins what we hope to be a regular occurrence – a frequent highlighting of one of the colleges or universities in the DANTES External Degree Catalog.

Since these institutions do not list their individual courses in the catalog, these discussions should provide a more in-depth understanding of their programs to help counselors more effectively guide students to distance learning programs. This month's profile is on Berkleemusic, the online extension school of Berklee College of Music.

Online Music Courses Designed With the Military in Mind

Berkleemusic, the online extension school of Berklee College of Music, is the perfect way for Service members to further their music interests on their own time, from anywhere in the world.

Take a tour (<http://www.berkleemusic.com/school/explore>) of Berkleemusic's online school to see how easy it is for Service members to bring online music learning into their life, even with their demanding military schedule. Berkleemusic.com information can be found in the DANTES External Degree Catalog (<http://www.dantescatalogs.com/DEDC/DEDC.asp?RecID=511>.)

The institution has also created a special military-oriented Web page (<http://www.berkleemusic.com/welcome/usmilitary>) that describes the variety of programs and courses they have available for our military.

The premier University Continuing Education Association (UCEA) has recently acknowledged Berkleemusic's excellent online offerings, and Berkleemusic is a multiple UCEA Award Winner, (<http://www.berkleemusic.com/awards>) for best

online college course in 2005 and 2006. This award is based on lesson content, assignments, student assessment, course layout, design, and the use of multi-media elements. To achieve this award, Berkleemusic competed with courses from all disciplines offered by colleges and universities nationwide.

For more information, review the Web pages at <http://www.berkleemusic.com/welcome/usmilitary> or contact Berkleemusic's Student Advisors via e-mail at advisors@berkleemusic.com, or by phone at 1-866-BERKLEE (toll free) or 617-747-2146 (commercial).



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If you would like the DANTES Information Bulletin (DIB) e-mailed to you every month, e-mail Publications at pubs@voled.doded.mil.

The DIB is also available on the front of the DANTES Web site at <http://www.dantes.doded.mil>.



Support from the top

by MGySgt James O'Keefe, DANTES Special Enlisted Advisor



MGySgt O'Keefe

The Senior Enlisted Panel, held at the DOD Worldwide Education Symposium 2006 (WW06), on 18 July in Orlando, Fla., featured our senior enlisted leadership—representing all Services. Collectively, they have over 188 years of combined leadership experience and uniformed service to our country. Serving in positions of high visibility, they provide sage counsel to their commanders with candid feedback on the life of the enlisted Service member today.

It is especially encouraging and informative when leaders take the time to appear before the VolEd community and voice support. Here are some excerpts from the WW06 Senior Enlisted Panel:

- **The Sergeant Major of the Army, Kenneth O. Preston**, asserted, “All of the Army’s missions are built on the foundation of recruiting and retention. Soldiers reenlist and stay for three primary reasons; first, the command climate; second, job satisfaction; and third, quality of life. Education is an important part of that. Education is the tool that allows Soldiers to be successful in the career field of their choice.”

- **The Sergeant Major of the Marine Corps, John L. Estrada**, said, “Education is of strategic significance before, during, and after military service. Our education community has known for a long time that people are the key to military readiness. The Marine Corps knows that success is defined not by what is already done, but by what we

continue to do for Marines and their families.”

- **The Force Master Chief of Manpower, Personnel, Training, and Education (MPT&E), U.S. Navy, Michael J. McCalip**, reminded, “Our education strategy for the enlisted is robust. The Navy’s commitment to lifelong learning has never been stronger.”

- **The Chief Master Sergeant of**

can do it, they’ll be walking across the street to your college or university.”

- **The Senior Enlisted Advisor to the Assistant Secretary of Defense for Reserve Affairs, Command Sergeant Major Lawrence W. Holland**, stressed, “The Guard and Reserves, or as we say, the Reserves, ‘big R,’ have transitioned from a strategic Reserve



WW06 Senior Enlisted Panel from left: Sergeant Major of the Army Kenneth O. Preston; Sergeant Major of the Marine Corps John L. Estrada; Force Master Chief Michael J. McCalip; Master Gunnery Sergeant James P. O'Keefe; Chief Master Sergeant of the Air Force Rodney J. McKinley; Command Master Chief Patricia A. Stolle; and Command Sergeant Major Lawrence W. Holland.

- **the Air Force, Rodney J. McKinley**, emphasized, “People are our most valuable asset. We must have deliberate development of our most important weapon system, and that is our Airmen.”

- **The Command Master Chief for Maintenance and Logistics Command Pacific, U.S. Coast Guard, Patricia A. Stolle**, suggested to institutional attendees, “Look at holding more classes on small bases. Once you hook someone on education and they know they

to an operational Reserve. Tom Brokaw better start working on his next book, ‘the next greatest generation,’ because that’s the men and women serving in your military today!”

Thank you for all you do for our Service members!

"Giving Credit Where Credit is Due" CD available

The DANTES Training Department, in coordination with the American Council on Education (ACE) and the Naval Media Center, has released a new CD-ROM entitled "Giving Credit Where Credit is Due." This CD highlights the ACE Guide and describes the military evaluation review process conducted by collegiate educators of identified courses and occupations to determine and recommend equivalent college credits. The CD includes information about the Army/American Council on Education Registry Transcript System (AARTS) and the Sailor/Marine/ACE Registry Transcript (SMART) and the signifi-

cant value they provide to Service members pursuing a college degree, as well as information on how to request transcripts from all the Services.

To order this CD and other DANTES materials, e-mail dist@voled.doded.mil and include the following:

1. Your four-digit DANTES ID number
2. Your shipping address (to assist us in maintaining a current database)
3. DANTES stock number (#2106)
4. Quantity desired.

Following receipt of your request,

you will be sent an e-mail reply confirming your order and initiation of your request. Our new ordering system replaces the previous system, which required the submission of a bubble sheet when requesting DANTES materials. You should see a faster turn-around service for your order.

If you do not have e-mail capability, call or fax your order in the format described above to the DANTES Distribution Center at (850) 452-1082 or fax (850) 452-1140.

New National Test Center opens in Germany

Over the past few months many of you have read of eCBT CLEP National Test Centers being opened



Carolyn Baker

on bases around the United States. This past June, the first European based eCBT CLEP National Test Center opened on Coleman Barracks in Mannheim, Germany.

Central Texas College (CTC) working with IMA EURO ACES, College Board and DANTES, established the first ever computer-based CLEP testing center in the region.

The Deputy Commander of the

U.S. Army Garrison Mannheim, David Smith, cut the ribbon for the grand opening of the center. Carolyn Baker (pictured left), Chief, Department of Defense Continuing Education and Jim Yeonopolus, Deputy Chancellor for Navy and International Campus Operations, addressed the crowd of over 40 attendees.

The uniqueness of this center is not only will it serve the needs of the local community, but also will meet the needs of sister Services stationed in nearby communities.

The CTC CLEP National Test Center is a pilot project for Germany. If this pilot is successful, additional centers would be estab-



Michael Spruell (at the podium), Associate Dean of Academic Affairs, CTC Europe, speaks at the grand opening.

lished in certain locations in the European Theater.



Education success story

Do you have an education success story you would like to share with other education professionals? We're looking for:

- Awards
- Best practices
- Amazing stories
- Pictures
- Meaningful quotes
- New programs

Send in your 100-word submission to pubs@voled.doded.mil. Pictures are welcomed.

DANTES
6490 SAUFLEY FIELD ROAD
PENSACOLA, FL 32509-5243
<http://www.dantes.doded.mil>

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Jeffrey P. Cropsey, Ed.D., Director
 Victoria Street, Editor
pubs@voled.doded.mil



YEARS AGO

Thirty years ago in voluntary education:

- In February 1976, DANTES introduced 35 DSSTs, bringing the total number to 75.

- The inbound WATS line installed at Educational Testing Service has been successful in solving problems ESOs and TCOs were having with inventory matters, shipping delays, and score reporting.

- During FY76, an average of 64 test control officers were appointed each month.

Telephone and fax numbers are: DSN 922-(xxxx) or (850) 452-(xxxx).

Office	Phone	Fax	E-mail
Director's Office	1745	1159	dantes@voled.doded.mil
Enlisted Advisor	1742	1159	ea@voled.doded.mil
Reserve Advisor	1760	1159	rca@voled.doded.mil
Web Site	1047	1322	dantes_webmaster@voled.doded.mil
European Advisor	011-49-6202-80-6008		dantes@hq.hqusareur.army.mil
Far East Advisor	011-822-7915-5581		fareast@voled.doded.mil
Troops to Teachers	1320	1096	ttt@voled.doded.mil
Education Support Dept.	1732	1162	
Military Evaluations/SOC/MIVER	1732	1162	high-edu@voled.doded.mil
WW Symposium/ACME	1732	1162	training@voled.doded.mil
Training	1884	1162	training@voled.doded.mil
Counseling	1389	1588	counseling@voled.doded.mil
Reference Publications	1763	1588	refpubs@voled.doded.mil
Military Counselor Network	1763	1588	mcnet_admin@voled.doded.mil
DANTES Publications/DIB	1763	1588	pubs@voled.doded.mil
Education Programs Dept.	1360	1005	
Examinations	1063	1160	exams@voled.doded.mil
Distance Learning	1085	1005	dstlearn@voled.doded.mil
Tuition Assistance	1085	1161	tahelp@voled.doded.mil
Certification	1360	1005	certprog@voled.doded.mil
Distribution Center	1082	1140	dist@voled.doded.mil